



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

April 7, 2010

Michael Dailey  
Kentucky Department of Education  
500 Mero Street  
1718 Capital Plaza Tower, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Mr. Dailey:

On February 8, 2010, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) submitted a response to the monitoring report that resulted from a program review conducted by the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs office of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program office team reviewed your State's progress in meeting the highly qualified teacher provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and your State's administration of the ESEA Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program. Thank you for sending this response to the monitoring report.

This response, in combination with additional information submitted on March 16 and 27, 2010, satisfactorily addresses the findings identified in the monitoring report. The KDE has agreed to ensure that appropriate highly qualified teacher requirements are in place for special education teachers who provide instruction to students with moderate to severe disabilities, to ensure that teachers hired to teach in Title I programs are highly qualified at the time of hire, and to make available an annual State report card that includes required teacher data. The KDE will put in place plans for school districts that have not met highly qualified teacher targets, including funding agreements, as appropriate. The KDE will measure progress and report on its equitable distribution plan and ensure that school districts are employing effective strategies for addressing the inequitable distribution of teachers, and it will put in place a system to regularly and systematically monitor school districts on the implementation of the Title II, Part A program. The Department will follow up with the KDE to ensure that progress is being made on these issues and that all agreed upon deadlines are met.

During the State agency for higher education (SAHE) portion of the monitoring review, the program team determined the SAHE had provided services to ineligible participants. The SAHE has provided a satisfactory plan for ensuring that this problem is corrected. This satisfies the further actions requirements for the SAHE portion of the monitoring report.

We commend your excellent work in responding to the concerns raised by the monitoring report. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to ensure that all teachers meet the highly qualified requirements and to help improve the delivery of ESEA Title II, Part A services in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth A. Witt".

Elizabeth A. Witt  
Program Officer

cc: John DeAtley

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